

# NORTH TAWTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk:  
Mrs R Rice

14a The Square North Tawton  
EX20 2EP  
Tel 01837 880121

Minutes of Part II of the Extraordinary Meeting of North Tawton Town Council held at the **Council Offices** on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2013**.

Present:           Cllr Dr P Brickley                           Cllr Mrs C Burrow  
                  Cllr Mrs G Hoggins                   Cllr K Hodge  
                  Cllr N Morgan (Chairman)           Cllr Mrs J Morgan  
                  Cllr I MacLeod                           Cllr Mrs Ponsford  
                  Cllr Mrs D Rice                           Cllr S Whiteley

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received Cllr S Blood (prior engagement).

Absent: Cllr Mrs J Rosser

2. **Declarations of Interest** – None were made at this stage.

The meeting ended at 7.35 pm and Part II of the agenda was discussed.

## **PART II EXEMPT REPORT**

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by S.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

2. **Planning Enforcement**

The matter regarding the Clerk reporting alleged Planning Enforcement complaints, either on behalf of a member of the public, a Councillor or even a matter that she has observed, together with the history of a recent planning application was discussed.

After some discussion it was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive at West Devon Borough Council to request a meeting to discuss planning enforcement.

1. **Attendance**

The absence of a Councillor attending a Council meeting since the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 meeting was discussed.

The law is quite specific regarding persistent absences:

“if a member fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his or her last attendance to attend any meeting of the council or of its committees or sub-committees, unless he or she has a statutory excuse or his or her failure is due to a reason approved by the council, he or she ceases automatically to be a member of the council”.

Reasons for absence approved by the council must be done in advance. A statutory excuse is membership of the armed forces in time of war.

After some discussion it was resolved that the Clerk should write to the Councillor informing them they will no longer be eligible to be a Councillor and a vacancy will be declared.

Councillors asked the Clerk to convey the Council's thanks for all the hard work and dedication that they have shown to the town, and wish them well in the future.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.